

WALTON ELECTRONICS

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TITLE: FINDING UNDERGROUND ANIMALS USING TRANSDUCER PROBES

ABSTRACT:

Animals which make their home in burrows or underground are detected by multiple probes driven into the ground. The tips of the probes include thermocouples. The thermocouple readings are displayed by digital or other means. The animal body temperature causes the earth to be warmer nearer to the animal burrow or nest. The temperature differences form a temperature gradient, with the warmest part being nearest to the burrow. The gradient is followed and used to locate the burrow. Extermination is then used on the animals. The animals are typically gophers. Alternatively, the probes are equipped with microphones, so that burrow sounds are detected, and the burrows are located according to the strength of the sound. Alternative to driving probes in to the ground, there is a self propelled probe bearing a video camera, and temperature and sound sensors, allowing the probe to be guided by an operator to the home nest.